

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00847 231542Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----104099 231544Z /41

O R 231517Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 585
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 847

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJ: SIILASVUO'S TRIP TO LEBANON AND SYRIA

REF: (A) STATE 74864, (B) BEIRUT 1540, (C) DAMASCUS 1598

1. AS AUTHORIZED, BRIEFED SIILASVUO MARCH 23 DRAWING ON
REFS (B) AND (C). (AT THAT TIME DID NOT HAVE BEIRUT 1576.)
HE WAS NEITHER SURPRISED NOR DETERRED. SIILASVUO UNDERSTANDS
AWKWARD POLITICAL SITUATION SYRIA FINDS ITSELF IN, BUT
BELIEVES SYRIA WISHES TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION
425 IN SUCH A WAY ISRAELIS WITHDRAW SOON. IN DAMASCUS, HE
PLANS TO STATE HE IS CONVEYING GOL REQUEST SYRIA USE ITS
INFLUENCE WITH PLO TO RESPECT CEASEFIRE AND ADVANCE ITS
ADF UNITS FROM ZAHRANI TO LITANI. HE WILL ALSO REFER TO
PRESS REPORTS OF IRAQI CONVOYS AND URGE THAT THEY BE HALTED.
AFTER CONVEYING MESSAGE ON BEHALF LEBANESE, HE WILL, AS UN
CHIEF COORDINATOR OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, MAKE REQUEST
THAT SYRIA TAKE THESE ACTIONS TO HELP ENSURE SMOOTH IMPLEMENT-
ATION OF SC RESES 425 AND 426.

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2. SIILASVUO ALSO UNDERSTANDS SYRIA'S DESIRE TO HAVE TIME-
TABLE FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. HE IS NOW CONCENTRATING ON THE
MANY POLITICAL/MILITARY/LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE
DEPLOYMENT OF THE FIRST UNIFIL UNITS. HOWEVER, IN HIS NEXT
MEETING WITH WEIZMAN, HE WILL STRESS NEED TO ESTABLISH TIME-
TABLE FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. HIS PRESENT THINKING IS THAT

AS SOON AS FRENCH, IRANIANS, AND SWEDES HAVE CREATED BUFFER ZONE SOUTH OF LITANI, HE WILL PRESS WEIZMAN TO BEGIN WITHDRAWAL OF SOME UNITS, EVEN IF ONLY ON A SYMBOLIC LEVEL.

3. SIILASVUO WAS CLEARLY EXASPERATED WITH HADDAD'S OBSTRUCTIONISM. HE COMMENTED ISRAELIS SHOULD SEND HIM TO A HOSPITAL FOR A LONG OVERDUE REST FOR HIS OVER-WROUGHT NERVES.

4. SIILASVUO ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER REPORT TIME CORRESPONDENT NEFF HAD QUERIED HIM ABOUT TO EFFECT A NUMBER OF ARMED PHALANGE HAD RECENTLY ENTERED SOUTHERN LEBANON.
NEWLIN

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